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Attorney for Applicants

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

10/646,378

Applicant

Barbara F. Smith et al.

Filed

August 22, 2003

Title

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TC/A.U.

(not yet assigned)

Examiner

(not yet assigned)

Docket No.

4250.2.24

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement disclosing information which has come to the attention of applicants and/or their attorneys and is being submitted so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), the enclosed Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-identified application or before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits.

Neither applicants nor their attorneys make any representation that any information disclosed herein may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103. Moreover, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the

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information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, transmitted herewith are:

1. A completed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" listing the patents, publications and other information being submitted for

consideration; and

2. A legible copy of each patent, publication and other item of information in written form listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A, except for copies of U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications which are not required for applications filed after June 30, 2003.

As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A are not required and, therefore, not included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Metcalf Reg. No. 31,398

Attorney for Applicants

Date: January 13, 2004

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Attorney Docket Number

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FORMATION DISCLOSURE TATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known Application Number 10/646,378 Filing Date August 22, 2003 Barbara F. Smith First Named Inventor Group Art Unit **Examiner Name** 4250.2.24

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

			U.S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevan Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ^{2 (f known)}			
	U1	US-6,082,548	07/04/2000	Stephenson et al.	
	U2	US-5,984,578	11/16/1999	Hanesian et al.	
	U3	US-5,928,517	07/27/1999	Smith et al.	
	U4	US-5,891,956	04/06/1999	Smith et al.	
	U5	US-5,824,210	10/20/1998	Kuryluk	
	U6	US-5,766,478	06/16/1998	Smith et al.	
	U7	US-5,643,456	07/01/1997	Smith et al.	
	U8	US-5,419,877	05/30/1995	Goforth et al.	
	U9	US-5,409,678	04/25/1995	Smith et al.	
	U10	US-5,262,024	11/16/1993	Lomasney et al.	
	U11	US-4,923,630	05/08/1990	Smith et al.	
	U12	US-4,867,951	09/19/1989	Smith et al.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considere	ed	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) . ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <u>www.uspto.gov</u> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.